

2/10/02  
X Smith  
3/14/02

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Thomas N. Chalin and Donald R.  
Watson

Filed:

Herewith

Entitled:

SUSPENSION SYSTEM HAVING  
REDUCED STRESS AXLE  
CONNECTION

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

As listed on the accompanying form PTO-SB-08, the applicants hereby call the examiner's attention to the following information of which they are aware, in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56. Copies of the listed references are enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement.

U.S. Patents:

4,166,640    5,634,655    5,366,237    4,693,486    5,375,871  
6,241,266    6,039,336

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97, which provides for the timely filing of an Information Disclosure Statement before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. Further, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

Written notification that the enclosed documents have been considered in their entirety, by return of a copy of the enclosed form completed by the examiner, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

KONNEKER & SMITH, P.C.



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Dated: 31 Jan. 2002

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I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as attached therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231,

Mailing Label No. EL8378076534S

on February 1, 2002  
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